FBI

Date: 2/8/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)(P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re New Orleans teletype 2/6/69.

Enclosed for the Bureau are six copies and for Los Angeles and Memphis two copies each of a self-explanatory LHM.

3 - Bureau (Encs 6)(RM)
2 - Los Angeles (44-1574)(Encs 2)(RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)(Encs 2)(RM)
2 - New Orleans
EJC/jpb
(9)

FEB 14 1969

REC-64

5565

Form 6-01 Form 6-18 Section

U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

Approved: FEB 21 1969 Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana
February 8, 1969

JAMES EARL RAY

Mr. Jerry Cohen, Los Angeles Times news reporter in New Orleans, Louisiana, residing at the Cochetta Motel, Room 216, Telephone 822-1560, New Orleans, Louisiana, telephonically advised he had contacted the Los Angeles Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and had been referred to the New Orleans Office of the FBI.

Cohen advised that he and Dave Lawson of Los Angeles, California, who is also a reporter of the Los Angeles Times, had obtained from Charles Stein a telephone number within one week after the arrest of James Earl Ray.

Cohen stated that Dave Lawson had made all the notes of the conversation with Stein but that as he, Cohen, recalls it, Stein showed Lawson a piece of paper which contained a telephone number and that Lawson had copied the telephone number from Stein's piece of paper into Lawson's note.

When Stein questioned Ray concerning this telephone number, Ray had said this is where Ray got his weather report.

Cohen stated that Stein two or three days after talking to Cohen and Lawson had made a call to New Orleans and had determined this number was a number for Troop B of the Louisiana State Police located in the Greater New Orleans area.

Cohen stated that neither he nor Lawson had furnished this telephone number to the Los Angeles Office of the FBI and when questioned as to whether or not this was an oversight advised that subconsciously it had been forgotten with the hope it might materialize into a good story.

44-38861-5563

ENCLOSURE

JAMES EARL RAY

Cohen advised that he did not have the telephone number with him but had made a contact in New Orleans while here to attend the Clay Shaw trial, who had determined that there was a Louisiana State Trooper at Troop B named Raul V. Esquivel.

Cohen advised he had no further information concerning this number but that Lawson would have more complete and accurate information from his notes.

A review of the New Orleans indices show an investigation was conducted in the case captioned "TROOPER RAUL VICTOR ESQUIVEL, LOUISIANA STATE POLICE, FERDINAND JOSEPH HORIO, JR. - VICTIM, CIVIL RIGHTS." Esquivel in 1964 was described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	[redacted]
Place of Birth	British, Honduras
Employment	Louisiana State Police, Troop B, Metairie, Louisiana
Length of Employment	Seven years
Residence	[redacted] Metairie, Louisiana

R. L. Polk's New Orleans City Director for 1968 lists telephone number 482-5751 to State Police Department Headquarters, Troop B. This number was dialed February 6, 1969, and the trooper answering the phone stated "State Police Department Headquarters" and then upon inquiry stated that it was Troop B.

The current New Orleans Telephone Directory lists telephone number 524-8446 to the Provincial Hotel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. The Provincial Hotel is where Ray stayed in New Orleans in December, 1967.

JAMES EARL RAY

Lieutenant Colonel Ben F. Ragusa, Assistant Superintendent, Louisiana State Police (LSP), Baton Rouge, Louisiana, advised that Trooper 1st Class Raul Victor Esquivel is assigned to LSP Troop B at New Orleans, Louisiana. He advised that in August of 1967 Trooper Esquivel was at that time also assigned to Troop B at New Orleans. He advised that Trooper Esquivel worked as follows during the month of August, 1967:

August 1, 2, and 3: on duty; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

August 4: day off

August 5: on duty; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

August 6 and 7: off duty due to a death in his family

August 8 and 9: on duty; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

August 10: off duty

August 11 through 23: on duty; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

August 24: off duty

August 25 and 26: on duty; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

August 27: off duty

August 28, 29, and 30: on duty; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

August 31: off duty

Ragusa advised that during August, 1967, Trooper Esquivel was assigned to duties in different areas of the Troop B LSP area as he was filling in for other troopers on their days off. He advised that during August, 1967, Trooper Esquivel worked in the New Orleans area.

JAMES EARL RAY

Ragusa advised that on March 22, 1968, Trooper Esquivel worked an eight-hour shift on that date.

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